

CITY-COUNTY PARKS BOARD

MINUTES

April 2, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

11:33 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Doyle, Dave Payne, Dennis Peterson, M.C. Beeby, John Carter, Jane Kollmeyer. Melissa Lewis was excused.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

City Commissioner Andres Haladay
County Commissioner Andy Hunthausen
City Commissioner Matt Elsaesser

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Craig Marr, Amy Teegarden, Tim Magee, Carol Kirkland, Carrie Severson

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND REVIEW OF AGENDA

A quorum was present.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

The February 5, 2014, minutes were approved as presented. The March 5 minutes were approved as presented.

COMMENTS FROM PERSONS PRESENT

PRESENTATIONS - Carrie gave a brief presentation on the county parks budget. In the absence of Babe Ruth representatives, she noted they were asking for an increase in the mowing budget. She reported their overall budget represents a two percent increase. Dennis suggested Babe Ruth get more volunteers to help them. Craig suggested maybe they could use less water, leave the grass longer, or mow less. There were concerns by the board that Babe Ruth is getting over half of the county parks budget. **MC moved and Jane seconded a motion to recommend approval of all budgetary requests made for the FY2015 county parks budget with the caveat that if the Board of County Commissioners needs to reduce the county parks budget that they review the cost of mowing Ryan Fields. Motion carried unanimously.**

Bob Fusie, Fair Board chair, introduced a video on the proposed the fairgrounds future construction plan with passage of a reduced but permanent fairgrounds levy. He urged everyone to vote. Dave offered congratulations to Bob and all the Fair Board members for all their hard work.

Karen Lane of the City-County Health Department gave a PowerPoint presentation on the connection between public health and the built environment and obesity trends and places for pedestrians and cyclists.

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City Commissioner Matt Elsaesser gave a background presentation on the connection of trails in the Helena area from Spring Meadow Lake to the former Asarco plant in East Helena and a potential bridge over Henderson Avenue and updated on some other potential future projects.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - Amy reported the consultant had information available on the second phase of parks district planning. The consultant generally reviewed costs for the operation and maintenance for parks and trails. There is ongoing research of other parks districts and discussion of potential organization and financing of the district. The next deliverables will be legal and cost analyses.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - Standing Items: proposed regional park district; tobacco-free parks update

ACTION ITEMS - none

REPORTS

CITY - Amy gave a handout on the assessment process to be used for further potential tobacco-free parks to be discussed at the July meeting. She noted the new rec and aquatics program manager starts work April 7.

COUNTY - Carrie reported this was her last Parks Board meeting.

HOLMAC -

LINCOLN - Dennis reported Lincoln had snow.

FAIR BOARD - Dave reported the board's focus on the election in June.

MAINTENANCE - Craig reported the new arborist starts April 7.

PLAYABLE PLAYGROUND - Stacy reported on the princess tea party.

BIKE HELENA - Pat reported nothing new.

SCHOOL DISTRICT - John thanked everyone for their support during the bomb scares. He also commended the Sierra Parks Board's volunteer work.

OTHER -

COMMUNICATIONS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (BOARD MEMBERS) Standing item: tobacco-free parks, county parks budget, Sierra Parks Board reported on its future expenses and the pressure from soccer and baseball. Sierra Park requested to be on the May agenda for general park discussion.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: May 7, 2014

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS: Sierra Park

ADJOURN - 1:03 P.M.

Carol Kirkland
Recorder